

THE
Annual Report

ON THE
Rural District of Melton Mowbray

For the Year 1913.

By William Tibbles,

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Medical Officer of Health.

Melton Mowbray :

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THE ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

TO THE

Rural District Council of Melton Mowbray

For the Year 1913.

Mr. CHAIRMAN and GENTLEMEN,

I hereby present to you my Annual Report on the Rural District of Melton Mowbray for 1913.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The Population of the district, estimated to the middle of the year, is 15,407. At the Census in 1911 the population was 15,271; the number of inhabited houses 3,606; the average number of persons per house 4·325; and the area of the district 91,848 acres.

The Births registered in the district in 1913 were 300; five births outside the district were registered as belonging to it, making the total 305, including 160 boys and 145 girls. The birth-rate was 19·7 per 1000 persons living.

The Deaths registered in the district were 168, and gave a death-rate of 10·7 per 1,000 persons living in the district. But the deaths in the district included 3 persons who did not belong to it; and the deaths outside the district included 22 persons who belonged to it. The correct number of deaths of persons belonging to the Melton Mowbray Rural District was 187, and this gave a death-rate of 12·1 per 1,000 persons living in it. The death-rate is practically the same as for the previous year, and it has seldom been lower. It is considered, however, that these figures do not represent the true death-rate. A notice received from the General Registrar's Office informs me that the local figures require correction by the factor ·8466; and when so corrected the comparative mortality for the district is 10·2 per 1,000.

Most of these figures are shown in Table I. which gives the Vital Statistics of the whole district for 1913 and five previous years. A comparison of the figures shows that 1913 was an average year.

THE SICKNESS.—During the year six schools were closed because of some prevailing disease. An epidemic of measles was in progress at the end of 1912; Barsby and Goadby Marwood schools were at that time closed on account of it. Owing to the same cause, Six Hills school was closed until January 25. Old Dalby school was closed from January 1 to 25 because of the occurrence of Scarlet Fever. Harby Infants school was closed owing to the prevalence of Impetigo, from Dec. 14 to 31. Asfordby

TABLE 1.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1913 and previous years.

Year.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.			Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.					
		Uncor-rected Number	Nett.		Number	Rate	of Non-residents registered in the District.	of Residents registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all A			
			4	5					Number	Rate	Number	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13		
1908	15183	337		22.3	184	12.1	—	23	27	80	207	13.6		
1909	15229	355		22.3	186	12.2	—	18	27	76	204	13.3		
1910	15275	345		22.5	180	11.8	—	6	18	52	186	12.1		
1911	15321	322	324	21.1	153	9.9	1	23	21	65	175	11.4		
1912	15362	318	321	20.9	157	10.2	—	31	19	59.1	188	12.2		
1913	15407	300	305	19.7	168	10.7	3	22	21	68.8	187	12.1		

Council school was closed from August 2 to 15 to prevent the spread of Scarlet Fever; and again from October 28 to December 8, owing to the prevalence of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria.

The cases of Infectious diseases notified are classified and numbered in Table II.

TABLE II.—Cases of Infectious Disease notified during 1913.

Notifiable Disease.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.								Total cases removed to Hospital.
	At Ages—Years.								
	At all ages.	Under 1	1—5	5—15	15—25	25—45	45—65	65 and upwards.	
Small-pox									
Cholera (C) Plague (P)									
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup)	32		7	23		2			20
Erysipelas.....	13				2	2	6	3	
Scarlet fever	67	1	16	46	2	2			45
Typhus fever									
Enteric fever	2				1	1			1
Relapsing fever (R) Continued fever (C)									
Puerperal fever ..	1					1			
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.....									
Poliomyelitis									
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	24			6	7	7	3	1	
Other forms of Tuberculosis	16		1	10	3	1	1		
Measles.....	11		3	3	4	1			
Totals	166	1	27	88	19	17	10	4	66

SCARLET FEVER.—67 cases were notified during the year. The disease was prevalent at Great Dalby in December 1912, and five cases were notified in 1913. There were also some cases at O'd Dalby late in 1912, and three more occurred early in 1913, and one in a child from Nether Broughton attending the same school. The disease made its appearance at Hose in January, and eight cases were notified at various times. There was one case at Long Clawson in May; in the same month it appeared in Harby and three cases were notified. In June a case occurred in Stathern and, from that time to the end of the year, seven cases were notified. At Eastwell there was one case; Freeby one case; Thorpe Arnold one case; Waltham one case; Burton Lazars three cases; Scalford one case; Holwell two cases; Cold Overton one case; Buckminster one case; Sewstern three cases; and Asfordby twenty-four cases. The disease appeared in Asfordby in May; but no other case

was reported until August, and, from that date to the end of the year, notifications were frequent.

DIPHTHERIA.—A serious case occurred at Harby in January, and two more in September. There was also a case at Garthorpe in October. But the chief outbreak of Diphtheria was at Asfordby, where 28 cases were notified. The first case occurred in October, and for a few weeks the disease spread rapidly. In November diphtheria again gave place to scarlet fever. During the last quarter of the year there were 35 cases of these two diseases in that parish.

ENTERIC FEVER.—Two cases occurred in January and March at Abb Kettleby, both recovered.

PUERPERAL DISEASES.—Two fatal cases of Septicæmia occurred, and there were two other deaths of women from severe illness following childbirth.

ERYSIPELAS.—The following cases were notified—Sewstern one; Hose two; Frisby one; Stathern two; Nether Broughton two; Great Dalby one; Asfordby three; Pickwell one; total 13 cases.

DIARRHOEA.—This disease was prevalent at Scalford in April, and was considered to be a gastro-intestinal type of influenza. A few cases also occurred in Frisby, Somerby, and elsewhere at different times.

WHOOPIING COUGH was prevalent in Thorpe Arnold, Old Dalby, and Twyford.

MUMPS.—A few cases occurred in Asfordby, Twyford and elsewhere.

MEASLES.—The epidemic of Measles which prevailed in the autumn of 1912 continued through the first quarter of 1913; but only eleven cases were notified. Most of the cases occurred in Barsby, Goadby Marwood, Eastwell and Eaton. The futility of notification became evident, and the resolution passed in 1912 to make measles a notifiable disease was rescinded by your Council, and notification ceased in March.

TUBERCULOSIS.—Forty fresh cases were notified, including 24 persons suffering from tuberculosis of the lungs, 6 from tuberculosis of glands, 5 tuberculosis of bones and joints, 4 tuberculosis of the peritoneum, and one tuberculosis of the coverings of the brain. The distribution of the cases was as follows: Asfordby 19, Long Clawson 2, Rotherby 2, Pickwell 2, and one in each of the following places—Abb Kettleby, Buckminster, Cold Overton, Eaton, Eastwell, Frisby, Gaddesby, Great Dalby, Hoby, Ragdale, Somerby, Scalford, Sysonby, Thorpe Satchville and Wymondham.

CAUSES OF DEATH.—The mortality from infectious diseases was very small. There was no death from scarlet and enteric fevers; only one from diphtheria, one from measles, one from whooping cough, and three from influenza—the latter being aged persons.

The deaths from Consumption (*Tuberculosis of the lungs*) were 9; from tubercular meningitis one, and from tuberculosis of other parts two.

Table III. Causes of, and Ages at Death during the Year 1913

Causes of Death.		Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents," whether occurring within or without the District.									Ttl. D'ths whether Residents or Non- residents in institu- tions in District
		All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 & under 2 years.	2 & under 5 years.	5 & under 15 years.	15 & under 25 years.	25 & under 45 years.	45 & under 65 years.	65 and upwards.	
All causes	Certified ...	184	20	5	2	5	6	19	32	95	
	Uncertified ..	4	1			1				2	
1	Enteric Fever										
2	Small Pox										
3	Measles	1		1							
4	Scarlet Fever										
5	Whooping Cough.....	1		1							
6	Diphtheria and Croup	1		1							
7	Influenza	3								3	
8	Erysipelas										
9	Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis	9				1	4	4			
10	Tuberculous Meningitis	1			1						
11	Other Tuberculous Dis- eases	2				1			1		
12	Cancer, malignant dis- ease.....	23						1	13	9	
13	Rheumatic Fever										
14	Meningitis	1					1				
15	Organic Heart Disease	22					1		5	16	
16	Bronchitis	14	2	1				1		10	
17	Pneumonia (all forms)	14		1				1	1	11	
18	Other diseases of res- piratory organs										
19	Diarrhoea and Enteritis	4	3						1		
20	Appendicitis and Typhitis	1							1		
21	Cirrhosis of Liver ...										
21a	Alcoholism.....										
22	Nephritis and Bright's Disease	7						1	1	5	
23	Puerperal Fever	2						2			
24	Other accidents & dis- eases of Pregnancy & Parturition	2						2			
25	Congenital Debility and Malformation, includ- ing Premature Birth	13	13								
26	Violent Deaths, exclud- ing Suicide	2						2			
27	Suicide	2						1	1		
28	Other defined diseases	58	3		1	4		4	7	39	
29	Diseases ill-defined or unknown	4							1	3	
		187	21	5	2	6	6	19	32	96	

Cancer was the cause of death to 23 persons; most of these people were beyond middle life, and some had attained advanced age.

Heart disease was the cause of death in 22 cases.

Pneumonia caused 14, and bronchitis 14 deaths.

Three deaths were due to diarrhoea and gastro-enteric catarrh, and one was due to appendicitis.

Chronic Bright's disease and nephritis caused seven deaths.

Diseases connected with childbirth caused four deaths, including one from puerperal septicæmia, one septicæmia, and one eclampsia.

Accident was the cause of two deaths; three persons committed suicide in the district, by drowning, hanging, and shooting. One of the latter did not belong to your district.

Other defined causes accounted for 59 deaths; 39 of these persons were over 60 years of age, quite a number being over 70 years old; and the fact that a definite cause of death was given in so many cases indicates great care in the diagnosis of disease in aged persons.

THE INFANT MORTALITY.—Of the 305 children born, 288 were legitimate and 17 illegitimate. Twenty-one children died under one year old, equal to nearly 69 per 1,000 of children born. This figure compares very favourably with the record of past years; indeed it is a marked improvement on the infant mortality of a quarter of a century ago. The infant mortality of the previous five years varied from 52 to 80 per 1,000, and the record for 1913 was about the average. Of the 21 infants who died, 18 did not reach one month; 13 of these died in the first week, viz., 10 from premature birth, 2 from asthenia (debility), and 1 from convulsions; the remainder included 3 deaths from debility, 1 from convulsions, 1 from enteritis, 2 from bronchitis, and 1 from diarrhoea.

THE MEANS ADOPTED FOR PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF DISEASE.—

(1)—*Notification*: The infectious diseases are notified according to custom. Special diseases, belonging to this group are notified from time to time *e.g.*, chicken pox, measles, and cerebro-spinal meningitis.

(2) *Inspection*: The houses infected by diphtheria, scarlet, typhoid and other fevers are visited by the sanitary inspector or myself; sanitary defects are looked into and usually remedied. The houses occupied by tuberculous persons are inspected by the Health Visitors employed by the County Council; reports thereon are received by me, and sanitary defects are remedied.

(3) *Isolation*: Infected persons are isolated. When the home of an infected person is far away from other houses, removal to the hospital is not always necessary. But when such persons live in a village, and the house is small, it is practically impossible to isolate them in their own house; these cases are removed to the hospital as soon as possible. The difficulty of domestic isolation is obvious when a case of infectious disease occurs in a large family, and especially where the house contains few bedrooms. Moreover, a difficulty arises in such cases with regard to the

Infant Mortality.

1913.—Nett Deaths from stated causes at various ages under 1 year of age.

Causes of Death.		Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	4 weeks and under 3 months.	3 months & under 6 months.	6 months & under 9 months.	9 months & under 12 months.	Total deaths under 1 year.
All causes	Certified.	12	3	1	1	17		1	1	1	20
	Uncertified.	1				1					1
Small-pox	..										
Chicken-pox	..										
Measles	..										
Scarlet Fever	..										
Whooping Cough	..										
Diphtheria and Croup	..										
Erysipelas	..										
Tuberculous Meningitis	..										
Abdominal Tuberculosis	..										
Other Tuberculous Diseases.	..										
Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>)	..										
Convulsions	..	1	1			2					2
Laryngitis	..										
Bronchitis	..								1	1	2
Pneumonia (all forms)	..										
Diarrhœa	..							1			1
Enteritis	..				1	1					1
Gastritis	..										
Syphilis	..										
Rickets	..										
Suffocation, overlying	..										
Injury at birth	..										
Atelectasis	..										
Congenital Malformations	..										
Premature birth	..	10				10					10
Atrophy, Debility & Marasmus	..	2	2	1		5					5
Other Causes	..										
		13	3	1	1	18		1	1	1	21

Nett Births in the year) Legitimate 288.

Illegitimate 17.

Total 305.

Nett Deaths in the year of) Legitimate Infants 19.

Illegitimate infants 2.

Total 21.

“contacts.” It is possible that infectious diseases are unwittingly carried from house to house by sympathetic but careless neighbours. When infected persons are kept at home, the period of isolation is often shorter than it ought to be, through the careless supervision of the parents who are responsible for it. Occasionally a mild case of scarlet fever only comes to light during the stage of desquamation, and the damage done by non-isolation of such cases is sometimes great.

(4) *Disinfection.* The houses are sprayed with formaldehyde; the bedding, and clothing are disinfected by steam. A general spring cleaning is then recommended to the householder.

(5) *Schools* are closed when a disease is very prevalent, or the attendance falls very markedly.

Cases Treated in the Isolation Hospital in 1913.

Disease.	Diphtheria	Scarlet fever.	Typhoid fever	Recovered.
Cases in Hospital Dec. 31, 1912.....	1	7	4	12
CASES IN 1913.....				
Ab-Kettleby.....			1	1
Asfordby	17	15		26
Broughton (Nether).....	1	1		2
Buckminster		1		1
Burton Lazars.....		2		2
Dalby Magna.....		4		4
Garthorpe....	1			1
Harby		2		2
Holwell		4		2
Hose		3		3
Sewstern		3		3
Stathern		1		1
Thorpe Arnold		1		1
Waltham		1		
Total	20	45	5	61
In Hospital Dec. 31, 1913	1	8		

THE SANITARY WORK.—Nearly every village in the district has been visited once during the year by myself, some of them twice, and several three times. Many of these visits were connected with the occurrence of diseases, and included an inspection of premises, drains, water, dairies, etc.

The Report of the Sanitary Inspectors.—During the year Mr. Clifford Whitworth resigned his inspectorship, and Mr. G. Edgar Fryer, A.R.S.I., A.M.I.M., & Sy.E., was appointed in his place. Their work for 1913 included the following items:

TOTAL NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS for all purposes 1,552; notices served 128, including 126 informal and 2 statutory notices. No summonses were issued, and no convictions obtained.

COMPLAINTS received 13.

GENERAL SANITARY WORK.—Houses, premises, etc. inspected 488, nuisances abated 243; Pools, ditches and watercourses inspected 51, nuisances abated 25; Animals improperly kept, inspected 5, nuisances abated 4; Privies, new middens provided *nil*, old ones repaired 11, converted to pails 23, converted to w.c's *nil*. Pail or earth closets provided 15. Cesspools—repaired and rendered impervious 1. Drains and drain traps inspected 409, nuisances abated 63. Offensive accumulations inspected 37, nuisances abated 28. Unsanitary houses inspected 9, repaired, cleaned, etc. 5, condemned 3, closed 1. Overcrowding of houses, cases inspected 4, nuisance abated 1. Insanitary conditions not included in the above: inspections 266, nuisances abated 85.

Slaughter houses in the district 27, inspected 24.

Unsound or diseased food: surrendered, one parcel.

Infectious diseases: Houses inspected 76, total number of inspections in connection therewith 94; number of rooms disinfected 112; lots of clothing disinfected by steam disinfecter 38.

Water: samples taken for analysis 13, condemned 3, cisterns repaired and cleansed 1

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS ORDERS, 1885—1889.—Regulations have been adopted, but no veterinary inspector has been appointed in connection with dairying etc. The number of Dairymen (*Milksellers*) in the district is 406; of these 346 are registered; inspections of premises 116. The number of Dairymen (*butter and cheesemakers*) in the district is 406; that is to say all of them sell milk, make butter or cheese; 106 premises were inspected, the total inspections being 122. The inspections during milking time were 6; the contraventions of the Regulations were 6. The premises which required cleansing were 4, those which needed sanitary improvements were 2; the requirements carried out were 6.

Water Supply: Nearly all the dairies derive their water from wells; the samples of such water taken for analysis were 4; of these 2 were found good, and 2 were condemned.

HOUSING (INSPECTION OF DISTRICT) REGULATIONS, 1910.—The number of dwelling houses inspected under the Regulations were 139; the total inspections made 284. The houses in which defects were found were 78; the houses in which defects were rectified, without resorting to a Closing order, were 37, after making a closing order 1. Houses closed after report thereon, (a) by voluntary action of the owners 3, (b) as result of closing order 1; houses put into a fit state for human habitation after issuing Closing Orders 1.

NEW SEWERS.—*Somerby*, 75 yards of 6 inch pipes were laid in Church Lane; *Sewstern*, 150 yards of 6 inch pipes in Buckminster Lane; *Wymondham*, 50 yards of 6 inch pipes relaid.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1901.—Registered Workshops 47, nuisances abated 0; registered bakehouses 34, nuisances abated 6; outworkers 23 in 22 houses.

Inspections: Number of visits 53, nuisances due to want of cleanliness 6, written notices 6, defects remedied 6. The outworkers of lace, nets, etc., number 67.

METEOROLOGY.—Table VI. The meteorological conditions in 1913 were somewhat exceptional. The latter half of the year was particularly dry with the exception of a few days when the rainfall was excessive. The total rainfall for the year was somewhat below the average, and there were many complaints of wells running nearly dry. A cool summer was followed by a mild autumn.

I am, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM TIBBLES,

Medical Officer of Health.

February 13th, 1914.

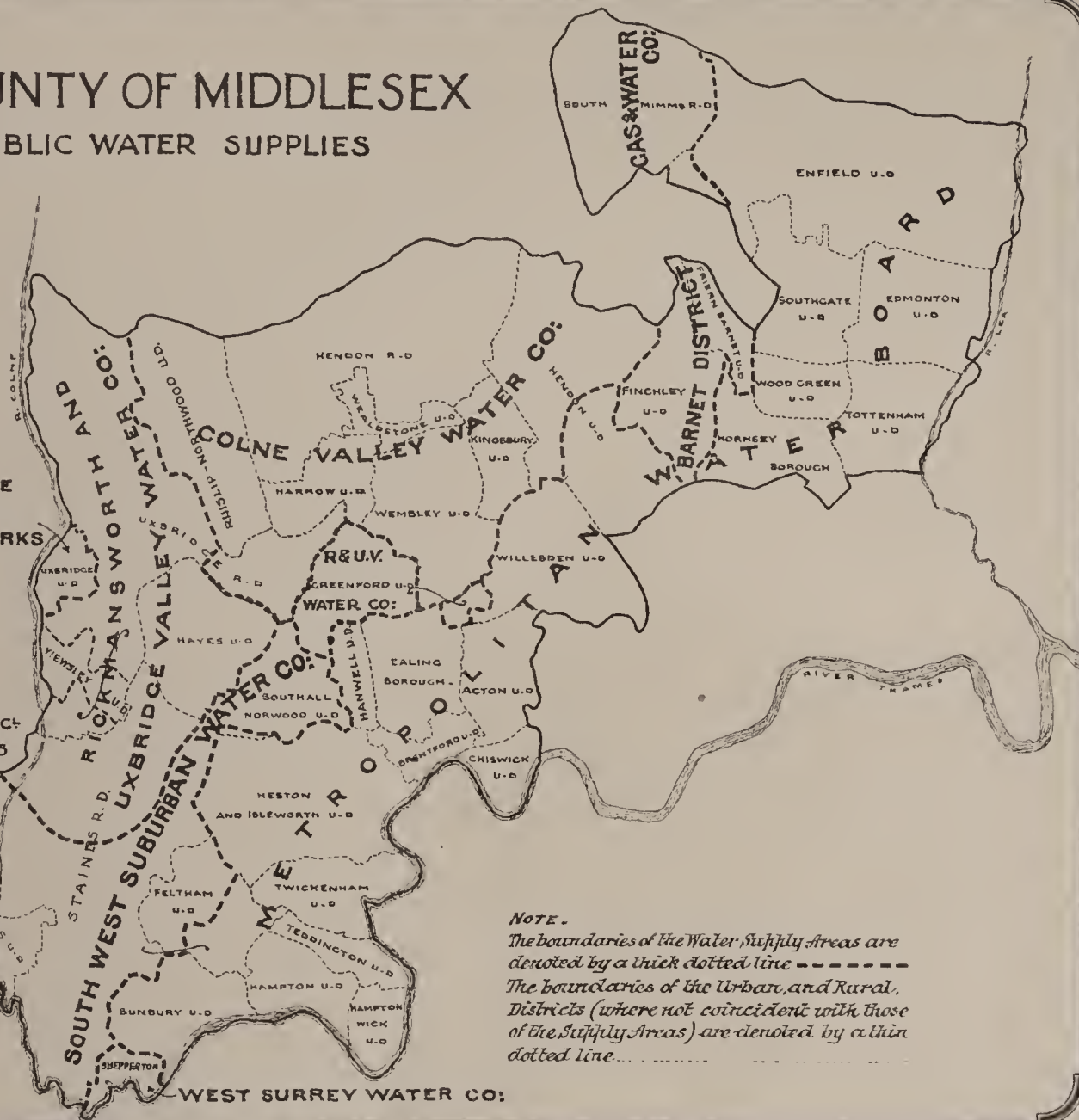
119, Derby Road, Parkside, Nottingham.

COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES

UXBRIDGE
DISTRICT
WATERWORKS

SLOUGH DISTRICT
WATERWORKS



NOTE.

The boundaries of the Water Supply Areas are denoted by a thick dotted line -----
The boundaries of the Urban, and Rural, Districts (where not coincident with those of the Supply Areas) are denoted by a thin dotted line.....

